

# A True and Perfect RELATION

## Of the Extraordinary and Terrible Thunder and Lightning

Which happened in the North of IRELAND June 26th. 1680.

With the Dismal Effects of the Fall of a CLOUD.

As it was sent in several Letters to the Lord Lieutenant  
at DUBLIN, from several Persons of Quality in the North of IRELAND.

SIR, Carrig-Mac-rois, this 28th. of June, 1680.

**A** Prodigious Accident happened in *Monterlony* on *Saturday* the 26th. of this instant *June*. (viz.) a Thunder-clap forced the Bowels of a great Mountain belonging to one *Mr. Claudius Hamilton*; after which ensued the Fall of a Prodigious Cloud, which entering the Cavities of the said Mountain, caused a very great Thunder; its weight bore the greatest part of the Mountain before it, which made such a Deluge of Puddle, that that part which fell into *Glenally River*, which run towards *Newtown Steward*, drowned Nineteen Persons in their Houses, turned the whole Vallies for Eight or Nine Miles in length, (that were Corn and Meadows) into a Desert of Dirt above a Foot thick, and hath choaked all the Fish in the River for Twenty Miles in length: The other part of this Cloud fell into the *Row-water*, which runs through the County of *London-Derry*, hath drowned 31 Persons, and carried away a very strong Stone Bridge at *Linvady*.

T. B.

SIR, *London-Derry*, this 30th. of June, 1680.

**I** Presume you will have the following News more at large then here I give you. On *Saturday* last happened a very great Thunder, with Hail and Rain in these Parts, but especially about 15 or 20 Miles from hence, insomuch that it had not only tore up a Mountain of near 200 Acres, but the Cloud breaking thereon, hath carried all the Surface of the Earth in that compass into all the Rivers round about; but withall, hath carried away several Houses and Families, insomuch that of Men, Women and Children, already above thirty Corps found, and many more are believed to be lost. Of a suddain the Waters rose between the Mountains 14 Fathom high; in that part where the Mountain was, one Woman was left alive, who gave an account of the Dreadfulness thereof, which she said was as well by Haillstones of an incredible bigness, as by the vast Cloud coming down at once, that she by a wonderful providence escap'd, and had it been in the night many hundred persons more had been destroyed, as well as their Houses, and great numbers of Cattle Drowned. All Fish for several Miles up the River are destroyed by the blackness and muddiness of the Water, which the Surface of that Mountain made, of Salmon above 7 or 8 Hundred found already dead on Shore, of Eccles, and all other small Fresh-water Fish infinite numbers destroyed, that it is not cannot be believed in those Rivers one Fish can be left alive; 'Tis too tedious to relate the whole matter, But 'tis as Dreadful to this Country as you can imagine, it being much worse than this Account I give you.

J. P.

S I R,

**O**N *Saturday* about Noon, it began here to Thunder and Rain, which continued for Three Hours incessantly, the River swelled suddenly, and did so overflow all the Banks, and coming down so impetuously, it brought with it an infinite deal of Timber, Sticks, Straw & Rubbish, which gather'd together at the side of our New-Bridge, and having no vent, it overthrew it, and there is not one stick left. I understand since, that the Thunder began above *Dongiven*, and there a Thunder-Bolt fell upon a Hill, and tore it down, which mingling with the Rain, it rather fell like a great Spout, and came tumbling upon a House belonging to *Aveny O' Caban*, Father of *Shane O' Caban* the Tory, and in a moment overthrew it, and carried all away with it, and *Aveny*, with his Wife, and five Children, and four Friends, were drowned, with their Cows, Sheep, and Horses; and among them a Child in a Cradle, which Cradle, with many other Household-goods, and Timber of Houses, did help to choke and overthrow the Bridge. A boy told me that he saw a Thunder-Bolt fall, which with great Flames and Flashes tore the ground, and all the day after none could go near that place for the smell of Brimstone; he says, there fell also Hail-stones of a strange size and shape, some like pieces of Candle, some like great Buttons, with sharp points: Within a few Miles of that place 18 persons were found drowned in a heap, and several about *Newton-Stewart*, but the mischief is not yet all known. After this, it is a small thing to tell you, that all the Meadows about this Town are spoiled, and all the Corn, from hence to the River mouth, and (which is wonderful) about *Derry* and *Coleraine* was nothing but an ordinary Shower, at *Maherac*, and thereabouts clear weather.

J. L.

Newton-Stewart the 29th. of June, 1680.

S I R,

**T**Here hath happened near this place so strange and sad an Accident, that I think the like has been seldom known; On *Saturday* last, about Ten of the Clock in the Morning, we heard much Thunder, which 15 Miles from hence made many great breaches in a Mountain, and such Spouts of Water fell upon the places so broken up, that the flood hurried the loosened Earth with it to the bottom, and swelled a Brook which ran there (and which comes into the River by this place) so suddenly and so high, that it carried away all that stood before it; People who lived near the bank had not time to get out of their Houses, but with Goods, Houses, and all were swept along with it and perished, the Beasts that fed near it were lost, the very Fish were stifled with the earth the current brought with it, great quantities of Salmon, of Trouts, Lampreys (which I never saw here before) even the Eels that live in the mud were choaked, and thrown dead upon the Shore. And I do not believe there is one Fish alive in the River, from the Mountain to the Sea. My curiosity took me yesterday to the place where this new kind of Deluge began, and truly I was amazed to see a Mountain torn in above 10 several places, and all the low ground by the River for 10 Miles together covered with the Ruins, the Corn-fields buried, and the people proking in the Mud and Earth for the bodies of their Friends, and of their Cattle. I cannot yet learn exactly how many have perished, but by accounts that are given, there are lost in several places, 50 Souls, and abundance of Cattle.

H. R.